
Simon Chang



Superintendent Marine Meteorology Division Naval Research Laboratory

Dr. Chang currently serves as the Superintendent, Marine Meteorology Division, Naval Research Laboratory, Monterey, California, whose mission is to conduct basic and applied research in marine meteorology and atmospheric effects on naval weapon systems, and to develop numerical analysis and prediction systems. Dr. Chang is responsible for the scientific and technical leadership, as well as the management and administration of the division. He serves as the principle consultant to the Navy on developing naval applications for the research and development programs in marine meteorology.

In May 2003, Dr. Chang was selected for appointment to the Senior Executive Service (SES).

He has 25 years of total civilian service with the Department of the Navy.

Dr. Chang was assigned to the Office of Naval Research (ONR) in 2001 and 2003 as a program officer in the Ocean Atmosphere Space Science and Technology Department. At ONR, he managed the tropical meteorology program and several Departmental Research Initiatives, including the Coupled Boundary Layer Air-Sea Transfer (CBLAST) initiative. The result of CBLAST has a major impact on the theory and prediction of air-sea coupling.

From 1996 to 2000, Dr. Chang served as consultant to the Marine Meteorology Division, where he coordinated research activities between Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) Monterey and NRL headquarters as well as other agencies in the Washington DC area. He was responsible in leading NRL effort on an Office of the Secretary of Defense sponsored meteorological and chemical-biological analyses of the Gulf War Illness. Dr. Chang entered the DLAMP (Defense Leadership and Management Program) training program and completed required courses and attended the Center for DLAMP at the National Defense University in 2000.

Dr. Chang was as head of the Atmospheric Dynamics and Modeling Branch of the Marine Meteorology Division from 1994 to 1996. In this position, he directed more than 30 scientists to perform basic and applied research in atmospheric sciences and prediction system development.

Dr. Chang joined Naval Research Laboratory as a contractor in 1978 and became an employee in 1983 as a meteorologist in the Space Science Division. At NRL he engaged in basic and applied research in meteorology and oceanography. His scientific interests include tropical cyclone, air-sea interactions, numerical weather prediction, satellite data assimilation, and stratosphere-troposphere interactions.

He was a National Research Council postdoctoral fellow at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in 1977. Dr. Simon Chang obtained a bachelor's of science degree in meteorology from National Taiwan University in 1969, master's of science degree in atmospheric science from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in 1972, and PhD degree in meteorology in 1977 from the Pennsylvania State University. As part of his dissertation work, Dr. Chang worked at the National Hurricane Research Laboratory in Miami and at the Riso National Laboratory in Denmark.

Dr. Chang served as a member of the Interagency Working Group of the U.S. Weather Research Program (USWRP) and the Weather Research and Forecast (WRF) Executive Oversight Board. He is currently a member of the Management Oversight Board of the Joint Center of Satellite Data Assimilation (JCSDA), and a member of the U.S. THORPEX Executive Committee (USTEC). He has advised graduate students and served on PhD committees at the University of Miami, North Carolina State University, the Naval Postgraduate School, and the Florida State University. Dr. Chang has 50 peer-reviewed publications, and has written many conference abstracts and technical reports. He has received many performance awards and Special-Act awards, the Alan Berman Research Publication Award, and the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Executives. Dr. Chang is a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society.